



**Superior Court  
of the State of California**  
**In and For  
The County of Placer  
Roseville, California**

**COURT EXECUTIVE OFFICE**

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**PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

August 1, 2012

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**SUPERIOR COURT OF PLACER COUNTY ANNOUNCES  
REDUCED OPERATING HOURS AND  
LIMITED SERVICE DAYS IN FISCAL YEAR 2012/2013**

The Superior Court of Placer County is announcing two separate actions necessitated by the continuing State fiscal crisis and resulting funding cuts to the court.

**Reduced Hours on Fridays Beginning October 5, 2012**

Effective October 5, 2012, the public filing windows will close two hours earlier on Fridays – at 1:00 pm – at the Santucci Justice Center in Roseville, the Tahoe City Courthouse, and the Juvenile Courthouse. Hours will remain unchanged Monday through Thursday. For current hours please see the court's website at [www.placer.courts.ca.gov](http://www.placer.courts.ca.gov).

**Limited Service Days in Fiscal Year 2012/2013**

The Superior Court of Placer County will provide only limited services on the following dates:

November 20, 2012	December 26, 2012	December 31, 2012
November 21, 2012	December 27, 2012	April 26, 2013
December 24, 2012	December 28, 2012	

The Court finds this action necessary due to the ongoing State fiscal crisis, which has resulted in multiple years of significant reductions in State funding to the Placer County Superior Court. The Legislature and Governor reduced state funding for the Judicial Branch by \$350 million in the Budget Act for the 2011–2012 Fiscal Year and an additional \$544 million in the Budget Act for the 2012-2013 Fiscal Year.

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In an effort to absorb reductions in its allocated state funding, the Placer County Superior Court has reduced its costs over the past four years by reducing its workforce by more than 30%, instituting employee furloughs, closing two courtrooms, eliminating funding for its Peer Court, discontinuing the Family Law Case Management and Criminal Domestic Violence Case Management programs, reducing Self-Help Center hours, and eliminating supportive services for families involved in high-conflict family law matters.

Instituting the reduced operating hours and limited service days, outlined above, will save the Court between \$700,000 and \$750,000 during the current fiscal year.

The Honorable Alan V. Pineschi, Presiding Judge of the Placer County Superior Court, had the following comment: "The Court is extraordinarily sensitive to the fact that reducing the court's operating hours impacts the public's access to justice. These actions, which represent the third time in four years we have been forced to implement closures or limited services, will impact those exercising their rights in criminal cases, those seeking resolution to business disputes, and families looking to resolve their divorce or child custody situations. However, just like all the other courts in California that are dependent on state funding, the Placer County Superior Court must take cost-savings measures in light of the State's fiscal crisis. The cost-savings measures being adopted by our court are preferable to more drastic measures, such as permanently closing courtrooms, or laying off more court employees. We continue to appreciate the public's patience as we operate in an environment with significantly fewer staff and hours to serve them."

On limited service days, only Department 13, the courtroom located at the Placer County Jail, 2775 Richardson Drive, Auburn, will remain open. That courtroom will handle criminal arraignments, certain time-sensitive juvenile proceedings, and any last day criminal matters. All other courtrooms and clerks' offices will be closed. Although the limited service days will not qualify as holidays for purposes of calculating statutory time requirements, a drop-box will be provided to permit same-day filings at all court locations that otherwise accept filings. Courtroom staff also will accept urgent non-criminal filings (e.g., petitions for restraining orders or injunctions) from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm and the court will hear such matters in Department 13 if emergency circumstances warrant such action.

The court is seeking public comment on these decisions. For information on how to submit a public comment, please visit <http://www.placer.courts.ca.gov/>.